



Town of Garner NEWS RELEASE-01

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Garner Welcomes Google Fiber Announcement

GARNER (Jan. 27)—The Town of Garner expects to reap significant economic-development and quality-of-life benefits as a result of Google's decision to bring super-high-speed Internet to this fast-growing Raleigh suburb of 27,000 residents.

"Garner is already home to a number of tech and other 'creative class'-type businesses. Google Fiber will generate much more buzz about Garner among the creative classes—especially given our proximity to downtown Raleigh," Mayor Ronnie Williams said immediately following Tuesday's announcement that Google Fiber would be coming to Garner.

Company officials, flanked by Gov. Pat McCrory and mayors from Triangle communities that will be getting Google Fiber, revealed that Garner was one of only 18 communities nationwide to be getting the one-gigabit-per-second Internet service during this phase.

The economic-development impact of Google Fiber is expected to be considerable, Town officials said. They noted that companies from California to France have moved to Kansas City—one of three metro areas that currently have Google Fiber networks—because of the Internet service. The fiber network has also encouraged the growth of startup companies in Kansas City. Garner anticipates similar economic benefits, Town officials said.

"With the redevelopment of the Garner Technology Center, we're intending to make Garner a hotbed for science and technology. Google Fiber will help us succeed in this endeavor," Mayor Williams said. "There are many exciting business and economic development opportunities in our rapidly growing town. Google Fiber will make our business climate even stronger."

Mayor Williams also pointed to ways that Google Fiber would improve educational opportunities and the community's overall quality of life.

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“We believe that Google Fiber will create opportunities for our young people to better prepare themselves for the jobs of the future, and that’s very important to us,” the mayor said. “Google Fiber will also position our All-America City to become an even more engaged and innovative community.

Google says it will spend the next several months working with Garner and other municipalities in its proposed Triangle-area fiber network to complete a detailed design for the project. After that, construction will begin.

Assistant Town Manager-Operations Rodney Dickerson has been Garner’s point person on the Google Fiber project. “We will continue to work closely with Google during the next phases—from design to installation—to make sure the project comes to successful completion in a timely manner,” Dickerson said.

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